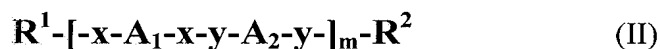


***Listing of the Claims***

1. – 15. (Canceled)

16. (Currently amended) A method of treating a microbial infection in an animal in need thereof, said method comprising systemically administering to the animal an effective amount of a pharmaceutical composition comprising an amphiphilic oligomer of Formula II:



or an acceptable salt or solvate thereof,

wherein:

x is  $\text{NR}^8$ ,  $-\text{N}(\text{R}^8)\text{N}(\text{R}^8)-$ , or  $-\text{C}(\text{R}^7\text{R}^{7'})\text{NR}^8-$ , and y is  $\text{C}=\text{O}$ ;

wherein  $\text{R}^8$  is hydrogen or alkyl;  $\text{R}^7$  and  $\text{R}^{7'}$  are independently hydrogen or alkyl, or  $\text{R}^7$  and  $\text{R}^{7'}$  together are  $-(\text{CH}_2)_p-$ , wherein p is 4 to 8;

$\text{A}_1$  and  $\text{A}_2$  are independently ~~optionally substituted~~ *o*-, *m*-, or *p*-phenylene or one of  $\text{A}_1$  and  $\text{A}_2$  is ~~optionally substituted~~ *o*-, *m*-, or *p*-phenylene and the other of  $\text{A}_1$  and  $\text{A}_2$  is ~~optionally substituted~~ heteroarylene, wherein  $\text{A}_1$  is substituted with one or more polar (PL) groups and is optionally substituted with one or more non-polar (NPL) groups and  $\text{A}_2$  is ~~are~~ independently optionally substituted with one or more polar (PL) groups, one or more non-polar (NPL) groups, or a combination of one or more polar (PL) groups and one or more non-polar (NPL) groups;

$\text{R}^1$  is

(i) hydrogen, a polar group (PL), or a non-polar group (NPL), and  $\text{R}^2$  is

$-\text{x-A}_1-\text{x-R}^1$ , wherein  $\text{A}_1$  is as defined above ~~and is optionally substituted with one or more polar (PL) groups, one or more non-polar (NPL) groups,~~

~~or a combination of one or more polar (PL) groups and one or more non-polar (NPL) groups; or~~

- (ii) hydrogen, a polar group (PL), or a non-polar group (NPL), and  $R^2$  is  $-x-A'-x-R^1$ , wherein  $A'$  is arylene or heteroarylene and is optionally substituted with one or more polar (PL) groups, one or more non-polar (NPL) groups, or a combination of one or more polar (PL) groups and one or more non-polar (NPL) groups;
- (iii)  $-y-A_2-y-R^2$ , and  $R^2$  is hydrogen, a polar group (PL), or a non-polar group (NPL); or
- (iv)  $-y-A'$  and  $R^2$  is  $-x-A'$ , wherein  $A'$  is aryl or heteroaryl and is optionally substituted with one or more polar (PL) groups, one or more non-polar (NPL) groups, or a combination of one or more polar (PL) groups and one or more non-polar (NPL) groups; or
- (v)  $R^1$  and  $R^2$  are independently a polar group (PL) or a non-polar group (NPL); or
- (vi)  $R^1$  and  $R^2$  together form a single bond;

NPL is a nonpolar group independently selected from the group consisting of

$-B(OR^4)_2$  and  $-(NR^{3'})_{q1NPL}-U^{NPL}-(CH_2)_{pNPL}-(NR^{3''})_{q2NPL}-R^{4'}$ , wherein:

$R^3$ ,  $R^{3'}$ , and  $R^{3''}$  are independently selected from the group consisting of hydrogen, alkyl, and alkoxy;

$R^4$  and  $R^{4'}$  are independently selected from the group consisting of hydrogen, alkyl, alkenyl, alkynyl, cycloalkyl, aryl, and heteroaryl, any of which is optionally substituted with one or more alkyl or halo groups;

$U^{NPL}$  is absent or selected from the group consisting of O, S, S(=O), S(=O)<sub>2</sub>,  $NR^3$ ,  
-C(=O)-, -C(=O)-N=N-NR<sup>3</sup>-, -C(=O)-NR<sup>3</sup>-N=N-, -N=N-NR<sup>3</sup>-,  
-C(=N-N(R<sup>3</sup>)<sub>2</sub>)-, -C(=NR<sup>3</sup>)-, -C(=O)O-, -C(=O)S-, -C(=S)-, -O-P(=O)<sub>2</sub>O-,  
-R<sup>3</sup>O-, -R<sup>3</sup>S-, -S-C=N- and -C(=O)-NR<sup>3</sup>-O-, wherein groups with two  
chemically nonequivalent termini can adopt both possible orientations;

the -(CH<sub>2</sub>)<sub>pNPL</sub>- alkylene chain is optionally substituted with one or more amino  
or hydroxy groups, or is unsaturated;

pNPL is 0 to 8;

q1NPL and q2NPL are independently 0, 1 or 2;

PL is a polar group selected from the group consisting of halo, hydroxyethoxymethyl,  
methoxyethoxymethyl, polyoxyethylene, and  $-(NR^{5'})_{q1PL}-U^{PL}-(CH_2)_{pPL}-(NR^5)_{q2PL}-V$ ,  
wherein:

$R^5$ ,  $R^{5'}$ , and  $R^{5''}$  are independently selected from the group consisting of  
hydrogen, alkyl, and alkoxy;

$U^{PL}$  is absent or selected from the group consisting of O, S, S(=O), S(=O)<sub>2</sub>,  $NR^5$ ,  
-C(=O)-, -C(=O)-N=N-NR<sup>5</sup>-, -C(=O)-NR<sup>5</sup>-N=N-, -N=N-NR<sup>5</sup>-,  
-C(=N-N(R<sup>5</sup>)<sub>2</sub>)-, -C(=NR<sup>5</sup>)-, -C(=O)O-, -C(=O)S-, -C(=S)-, -O-P(=O)<sub>2</sub>O-,  
-R<sup>5</sup>O-, -R<sup>5</sup>S-, -S-C=N- and -C(=O)-NR<sup>5</sup>-O-, wherein groups with two  
chemically nonequivalent termini can adopt both possible orientations;

V is selected from the group consisting of nitro, cyano, amino, hydroxy, alkoxy,  
alkylthio, alkylamino, dialkylamino, -NH(CH<sub>2</sub>)<sub>p</sub>NH<sub>2</sub> wherein p is 1 to 4,  
-N(CH<sub>2</sub>CH<sub>2</sub>NH<sub>2</sub>)<sub>2</sub>, diazamino, amidino, guanidino, guanyl,  
semicarbazone, aryl, heterocycle and heteroaryl, any of which is  
optionally substituted with one or more of amino, halo, cyano, nitro,

hydroxy,  $\text{-NH(CH}_2\text{)}_p\text{NH}_2$  wherein  $p$  is 1 to 4,  $\text{-N(CH}_2\text{CH}_2\text{NH}_2\text{)}_2$ , amidino, guanidino, guanyl, aminosulfonyl, aminoalkoxy, aminoalkythio, lower acylamino, or benzyloxycarbonyl;

the  $\text{-(CH}_2\text{)}_{p\text{PL}}$ - alkylene chain is optionally substituted with one or more amino or hydroxy groups, or is unsaturated;

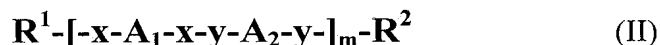
$p\text{PL}$  is 0 to 8;

$q1\text{PL}$  and  $q2\text{PL}$  are independently 0, 1 or 2; and

$m$  is 1 to ~~about~~ 20;

and a pharmaceutically acceptable carrier or diluent.

17. (Currently amended) A method of treating a microbial infection in an animal in need thereof, said method comprising systemically administering to the animal an effective amount of a pharmaceutical composition comprising an amphiphilic oligomer of Formula II:



or an acceptable salt or solvate thereof,

wherein:

$x$  is  $\text{NR}^8$ ,  $y$  is  $\text{C=O}$ , and  $\text{R}^8$  is hydrogen ~~or alkyl~~;

$\text{A}_1$  and  $\text{A}_2$  are independently ~~optionally substituted~~  $o$ -,  $m$ -, or  $p$ -phenylene or pyrimidinylene, wherein  $\text{A}_1$  is substituted with one or more polar (PL) groups and is optionally substituted with one or more non-polar (NPL) groups and  $\text{A}_2$  is ~~are~~ independently optionally substituted with one or more polar (PL) groups, one or more non-polar (NPL) groups, or a combination of one or more polar (PL) groups and one or more non-polar (NPL) groups;

$R^1$  is hydrogen, a polar group (PL), or a non-polar group (NPL), and  $R^2$  is  $-x-A_1-x-R^1$ ,

wherein  $A_1$  is as defined above ~~and is optionally substituted with one or more polar (PL) groups, one or more non-polar (NPL) groups, or a combination of one or more polar (PL) groups and one or more non-polar (NPL) groups;~~

NPL is  $-(NR^{3'})_{q1NPL}-U^{NPL}-(CH_2)_{pNPL}-(NR^{3''})_{q2NPL}-R^{4'}$ , wherein:

$R^3$ ,  $R^{3'}$ , and  $R^{3''}$  are independently selected from the group consisting of hydrogen,  $C_1$ - $C_6$  alkyl, and  $C_1$ - $C_6$  alkoxy;

$R^{4'}$  is selected from the group consisting of hydrogen,  $C_1$ - $C_{10}$  alkyl,  $C_3$ - $C_{18}$  branched alkyl,  $C_2$ - $C_{10}$  alkenyl,  $C_2$ - $C_{10}$  alkynyl,  $C_3$ - $C_8$  cycloalkyl,  $C_6$ - $C_{10}$  aryl, and heteroaryl, any of which is optionally substituted with one or more  $C_1$ - $C_6$  alkyl or halo groups;

$U^{NPL}$  is absent or selected from the group consisting of O, S, NH,  $-C(=O)-$ ,  $-C(=O)-N=N-NH-$ ,  $-C(=O)-NH-N=N-$ ,  $-N=N-NH-$ ,  $-C(=N-N(R^3)_2)-$ ,  $-C(=NR^3)-$ ,  $-C(=O)O-$ ,  $-R^3S-$  and  $-R^3O-$ , wherein groups with two chemically nonequivalent termini can adopt both possible orientations;

the  $-(CH_2)_{pNPL}-$  alkylene chain is optionally substituted with one or more amino or hydroxy groups;

$pNPL$  is 0 to 6;

$q1NPL$  and  $q2NPL$  are 0;

PL is  $-(NR^{5'})_{q1PL}-U^{PL}-(CH_2)_{pPL}-(NR^{5''})_{q2PL}-V$ , wherein:

$R^5$ ,  $R^{5'}$ , and  $R^{5''}$  are independently selected from the group consisting of hydrogen,  $C_1$ - $C_6$  alkyl, and  $C_1$ - $C_6$  alkoxy;

$U^{PL}$  is absent or selected from the group consisting of O, S, NH,  $-C(=O)-$ ,  $-C(=O)-N=N-NH-$ ,  $-C(=O)-NH-N=N-$ ,  $-N=N-NH-$ ,  $-C(=N-N(R^5)_2)-$ ,

$-\text{C}(=\text{NR}^5)-$ ,  $-\text{C}(=\text{O})\text{O}-$ ,  $-\text{R}^5\text{O}-$ , and  $-\text{R}^5\text{S}-$ , wherein groups with two chemically nonequivalent termini can adopt both possible orientations;

V is selected from the group consisting of nitro, cyano, amino, hydroxy,  $\text{C}_1\text{-C}_6$  alkoxy,  $\text{C}_1\text{-C}_6$  alkylthio,  $\text{C}_1\text{-C}_6$  alkylamino,  $\text{C}_1\text{-C}_6$  dialkylamino,  $-\text{NH}(\text{CH}_2)_p\text{NH}_2$  wherein p is 1 to 4,  $-\text{N}(\text{CH}_2\text{CH}_2\text{NH}_2)_2$ , diazamino, amidino, guanidino, guanyl, semicarbazone,  $\text{C}_6\text{-C}_{10}$  aryl, heterocycle, and heteroaryl;

the  $-(\text{CH}_2)_{p\text{PL}}-$  alkylene chain is optionally substituted with one or more amino or hydroxy groups;

pPL is 0 to 6;

q1PL and q2PL are 0;

m is 1 to 10,

and a pharmaceutically acceptable carrier or diluent.

18. (Currently amended) The method of claim 16, wherein x is  $\text{NR}^8$ , y is  $\text{C}=\text{O}$ , and  $\text{R}^8$  is hydrogen or alkyl.

19. (Original) The method of claim 16, wherein x is  $-\text{N}(\text{R}^8)\text{N}(\text{R}^8)-$ , y is  $\text{C}=\text{O}$ , and  $\text{R}^8$  is hydrogen.

20. (Currently amended) The method of claim 16, wherein  $\text{A}_1$  and  $\text{A}_2$  are independently optionally substituted *o*-, *m*-, or *p*-phenylene.

21. (Currently amended) The method of 20, wherein A<sub>1</sub> and A<sub>2</sub> are ~~independently~~ optionally substituted *m*-phenylene.
22. (Original) The method of claim 16, wherein one of A<sub>1</sub> and A<sub>2</sub> is *o*-, *m*-, or *p*-phenylene, and the other of A<sub>1</sub> and A<sub>2</sub> is heteroarylene.
23. (Original) The method of claim 22, wherein one of A<sub>1</sub> and A<sub>2</sub> is *m*-phenylene, and the other of A<sub>1</sub> and A<sub>2</sub> is pyrimidinylene.
24. (Currently amended) The method of claim 22, wherein one of A<sub>1</sub> ~~and A<sub>2</sub>~~ is substituted with one or more polar (PL) groups and one or more nonpolar (NPL) groups and ~~the other of A<sub>1</sub> and A<sub>2</sub>~~ is unsubstituted.
25. (Currently amended) The method of claim 16, wherein A<sub>1</sub> and A<sub>2</sub> are ~~optionally~~ substituted *m*-phenylene, and ~~one of A<sub>1</sub> and A<sub>2</sub>~~ is substituted with one polar (PL) group and one nonpolar (NPL) group and ~~the other of A<sub>1</sub> and A<sub>2</sub>~~ is unsubstituted.
26. (Currently amended) The method of claim 16, wherein R<sup>1</sup> is hydrogen, a polar group (PL), or a non-polar group (NPL), and R<sup>2</sup> is -x-A<sub>1</sub>-x-R<sup>1</sup>, wherein A<sub>1</sub> is as defined in claim 16 ~~and is substituted with one or more polar (PL) groups, one or more non-polar (NPL) groups, or a combination of one or more polar (PL) groups and one or more non-polar (NPL) groups.~~

27. (Previously presented) The method of claim 26, wherein  $R^1$  is a polar (PL) group and  $R^2$  is  $-x-A_1-x-R^1$ , where  $A_1$  is substituted with one or two polar (PL) groups and one non-polar (NPL) group.

28. (Original) The method of claim 16, wherein:

NPL is  $-(NR^{3'})_{q1NPL}-U^{NPL}-(CH_2)_{pNPL}-(NR^{3''})_{q2NPL}-R^{4'}$ , and  $R^3, R^{3'}, R^{3''}, R^{4'}, U^{NPL}, pNPL, q1NPL$  and  $q2NPL$  are as defined in claim 16.

29. (Original) The method of claim 28, wherein  $R^3, R^{3'}$ , and  $R^{3''}$  are independently hydrogen,  $C_1-C_6$  alkyl, or  $C_1-C_6$  alkoxy.

30. (Original) The method of claim 29, wherein  $R^3, R^{3'}$ , and  $R^{3''}$  are hydrogen.

31. (Original) The method of claim 28, wherein  $R^{4'}$  is  $C_1-C_{10}$  alkyl,  $C_3-C_{18}$  branched alkyl,  $C_2-C_{10}$  alkenyl,  $C_2-C_{10}$  alkynyl, or  $C_6-C_{10}$  aryl.

32. (Original) The method of claim 31, wherein  $R^{4'}$  is phenyl, methyl, ethyl, *n*-propyl, isopropyl, *n*-butyl, *tert*-butyl, or *n*-pentyl.

33. (Original) The method of claim 28, wherein  $U^{NPL}$  is O, S, NH,  $-C(=O)-$ ,  $-C(\equiv O)-$ ,  $N=N-NH-$ ,  $-C(=O)-NH-N=N-$ ,  $-N=N-NH-$ ,  $-C(=N-N(R^3)_2)-$ ,  $-C(=NR^3)-$ ,  $-C(=O)O-$ ,  $-R^3S-$  or  $-R^3O-$ .

34. (Original) The method of claim 33, wherein  $U^{NPL}$  is  $-C(=O)-$ .



35. (Currently amended) The method of claim 28 ~~33~~, wherein U<sup>NPL</sup> is absent.

36. (Original) The method of claim 16, wherein NPL is *n*-propyl, isopropyl, *n*-butyl, or *tert*-butyl.

37. (Original) The method of claim 28, wherein:  
pNPL is 0 to 2; and q1NPL and q2NPL are independently 0 or 1.

38. (Original) The method of claim 28, wherein the -(CH<sub>2</sub>)<sub>pNPL</sub>- alkylene chain in NPL is substituted with one or more amino groups.

39. (Original) The method of claim 16, wherein:  
PL is -(NR<sup>5'</sup>)<sub>q1PL</sub>-U<sup>PL</sup>-(CH<sub>2</sub>)<sub>pPL</sub>-(NR<sup>5''</sup>)<sub>q2PL</sub>-V, and R<sup>5</sup>, R<sup>5'</sup>, R<sup>5''</sup>, V, U<sup>PL</sup>, pPL, q1PL and q2PL are as defined in claim 16.

40. (Original) The method of claim 39, wherein R<sup>5</sup>, R<sup>5'</sup>, and R<sup>5''</sup> are independently hydrogen, C<sub>1</sub>-C<sub>6</sub> alkyl, or C<sub>1</sub>-C<sub>6</sub> alkoxy.

41. (Original) The method of claim 39, wherein U<sup>PL</sup> is O, S, NH, -C(=O)-, -C(=O)-N=N-NH-, -C(=O)-NH-N=N-, -N=N-NH-, -C(=N-N(R<sup>5</sup>)<sub>2</sub>)-, -C(=NR<sup>5</sup>)-, -C(=O)O-, -R<sup>5</sup>S- or -R<sup>5</sup>O-.

42. (Currently amended) The method of claim ~~39~~ 41, wherein  $U^{PL}$  is O, S,  $-C(=O)$ , or is absent.

43. (Original) The method of claim 39, wherein V is amino,  $C_1$ - $C_6$  alkylamino,  $-NH(CH_2)_pNH_2$  wherein p is 1 to 4,  $-N(CH_2CH_2NH_2)_2$ , diazamino, amidino, or guanidino.

44. (Original) The method of claim 39, wherein pPL is 2 to 4, and q1PL and q2PL are 0.

45. (Original) The method of claim 39, wherein the  $-(CH_2)_{pPL}-$  alkylene chain in PL is substituted with one or more amino groups.

46. (Currently amended) The method of claim 16, wherein m is 1 to ~~about~~ 5.

47. (Original) The method of claim 16, wherein m is 1, 2 or 3.

48. (Currently amended) The method of claim 16, wherein:

x is  $NR^8$ , y is  $C=O$ , and  $R^8$  is hydrogen;

~~A<sub>1</sub> and A<sub>2</sub> are independently optionally substituted~~ *m*-phenylene, wherein

- (i) ~~one of A<sub>1</sub> and A<sub>2</sub>~~ is substituted with one polar (PL) group and one nonpolar (NPL) group and ~~the other of A<sub>1</sub> and A<sub>2</sub>~~ is unsubstituted; or
- (ii) ~~one of A<sub>1</sub> and A<sub>2</sub>~~ is substituted with one polar (PL) group and one nonpolar (NPL) group and ~~the other of A<sub>1</sub> and A<sub>2</sub>~~ is substituted with one or two polar (PL) groups;

$R^1$  is hydrogen or a polar group (PL), and  $R^2$  is  $-x-A_1-x-R^1$ , wherein  $A_1$  is as defined above ~~and is optionally substituted with one or more polar (PL) groups, one or more non-polar (NPL) groups, or a combination of one or more polar (PL) groups and one or more non-polar (NPL) groups;~~

NPL is  $-(NR^{3'})_{q1NPL}-U^{NPL}-(CH_2)_{pNPL}-(NR^{3''})_{q2NPL}-R^{4'}$ , wherein:

$R^3$ ,  $R^{3'}$ , and  $R^{3''}$  are independently selected from the group consisting of hydrogen,  $C_1$ - $C_6$  alkyl, and  $C_1$ - $C_6$  alkoxy;

$R^{4'}$  is selected from the group consisting of hydrogen,  $C_1$ - $C_{10}$  alkyl,  $C_3$ - $C_{18}$  branched alkyl,  $C_2$ - $C_{10}$  alkenyl,  $C_2$ - $C_{10}$  alkynyl,  $C_3$ - $C_8$  cycloalkyl,  $C_6$ - $C_{10}$  aryl, and heteroaryl, any of which is optionally substituted with one or more  $C_1$ - $C_6$  alkyl or halo groups;

$U^{NPL}$  is absent or selected from the group consisting of O, S, NH,  $-C(=O)-$ ,  $-R^3S-$  and  $-R^3O-$ , wherein groups with two chemically nonequivalent termini can adopt both possible orientations;

the  $-(CH_2)_{pNPL}-$  alkylene chain is optionally substituted with one or more amino groups;

$pNPL$  is 0 to 6;

$q1NPL$  and  $q2NPL$  are 0;

PL is  $-(NR^{5'})_{q1PL}-U^{PL}-(CH_2)_{pPL}-(NR^{5''})_{q2PL}-V$ , wherein:

$R^5$ ,  $R^{5'}$ , and  $R^{5''}$  are independently selected from the group consisting of hydrogen,  $C_1$ - $C_6$  alkyl, and  $C_1$ - $C_6$  alkoxy;

$U^{PL}$  is absent or selected from the group consisting of O, S, NH,  $-C(=O)-$ ,  $-R^5O-$ , and  $-R^5S-$ , wherein groups with two chemically nonequivalent termini can adopt both possible orientations;

V is selected from the group consisting of amino, hydroxy, C<sub>1</sub>-C<sub>6</sub> alkylamino, -NH(CH<sub>2</sub>)<sub>p</sub>NH<sub>2</sub> wherein p is 1 to 4, -N(CH<sub>2</sub>CH<sub>2</sub>NH<sub>2</sub>)<sub>2</sub>, diazamino, amidino, and guanidino;

the -(CH<sub>2</sub>)<sub>pPL</sub>- alkylene chain is optionally substituted with one or more amino groups;

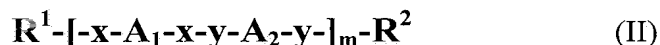
pPL is 0 to 6;

q1PL and q2PL are 0; and

m is 1, 2 or 3.

49. – 66. (Canceled)

67. (Currently amended) A method of treating a microbial infection in an animal in need thereof, said method comprising systemically administering to the animal an effective amount of a pharmaceutical composition comprising an amphiphilic oligomer of Formula II:



or an acceptable salt or solvate thereof, wherein:

x is NR<sup>8</sup>, y is C=O, and R<sup>8</sup> is hydrogen;

A<sub>1</sub> and A<sub>2</sub> are ~~independently optionally substituted~~ m-phenylene or and

m-pyrimidinylene ~~m-pyrimidinylene~~, wherein one of A<sub>1</sub> and A<sub>2</sub> is ~~optionally substituted~~ m-phenylene, and the other of A<sub>1</sub> and A<sub>2</sub> is ~~optionally substituted~~ pyrimidinylene, and wherein

(i) ~~one of A<sub>1</sub> and A<sub>2</sub>~~ is substituted with one polar (PL) group and one nonpolar (NPL) group and ~~the other of A<sub>1</sub> and A<sub>2</sub>~~ is unsubstituted; or

(ii) ~~one of A<sub>1</sub> and A<sub>2</sub>~~ is substituted with one polar (PL) group and one nonpolar (NPL) group and ~~the other of A<sub>1</sub> and A<sub>2</sub>~~ is substituted with one or two polar (PL) groups;

R<sup>1</sup> is hydrogen or a polar group (PL), and R<sup>2</sup> is -x-A<sub>1</sub>-x-R<sup>1</sup>, wherein A<sub>1</sub> is as defined above ~~and is optionally substituted with one or more polar (PL) groups, one or more non-polar (NPL) groups, or a combination of one or more polar (PL) groups and one or more non-polar (NPL) groups;~~

NPL is -(NR<sup>3'</sup>)<sub>q1NPL</sub>-U<sup>NPL</sup>-(CH<sub>2</sub>)<sub>pNPL</sub>-(NR<sup>3''</sup>)<sub>q2NPL</sub>-R<sup>4'</sup>, wherein:

R<sup>3</sup>, R<sup>3'</sup>, and R<sup>3''</sup> are independently selected from the group consisting of hydrogen, C<sub>1</sub>-C<sub>6</sub> alkyl, and C<sub>1</sub>-C<sub>6</sub> alkoxy;

R<sup>4'</sup> is selected from the group consisting of hydrogen, C<sub>1</sub>-C<sub>10</sub> alkyl, C<sub>3</sub>-C<sub>18</sub> branched alkyl, C<sub>2</sub>-C<sub>10</sub> alkenyl, C<sub>2</sub>-C<sub>10</sub> alkynyl, C<sub>3</sub>-C<sub>8</sub> cycloalkyl, C<sub>6</sub>-C<sub>10</sub> aryl, and heteroaryl, any of which is optionally substituted with one or more C<sub>1</sub>-C<sub>6</sub> alkyl or halo groups;

U<sup>NPL</sup> is absent or selected from the group consisting of O, S, NH, -C(=O)-, -R<sup>3</sup>S- and -R<sup>3</sup>O-, wherein groups with two chemically nonequivalent termini can adopt both possible orientations;

the -(CH<sub>2</sub>)<sub>pNPL</sub>- alkylene chain is optionally substituted with one or more amino groups;

pNPL is 0 to 6;

q1NPL and q2NPL are 0;

PL is -(NR<sup>5'</sup>)<sub>q1PL</sub>-U<sup>PL</sup>-(CH<sub>2</sub>)<sub>pPL</sub>-(NR<sup>5''</sup>)<sub>q2PL</sub>-V, wherein:

R<sup>5</sup>, R<sup>5'</sup>, and R<sup>5''</sup> are independently selected from the group consisting of hydrogen, C<sub>1</sub>-C<sub>6</sub> alkyl, and C<sub>1</sub>-C<sub>6</sub> alkoxy;

$U^{PL}$  is absent or selected from the group consisting of O, S, NH,  $-C(=O)-$ ,  $-R^5O-$ , and  $-R^5S-$ , wherein groups with two chemically nonequivalent termini can adopt both possible orientations;

V is selected from the group consisting of amino, hydroxy,  $C_1-C_6$  alkylamino,  $-NH(CH_2)_pNH_2$  wherein p is 1 to 4,  $-N(CH_2CH_2NH_2)_2$ , diazamino, amidino, and guanidino;

the  $-(CH_2)_{pPL}-$  alkylene chain is optionally substituted with one or more amino groups;

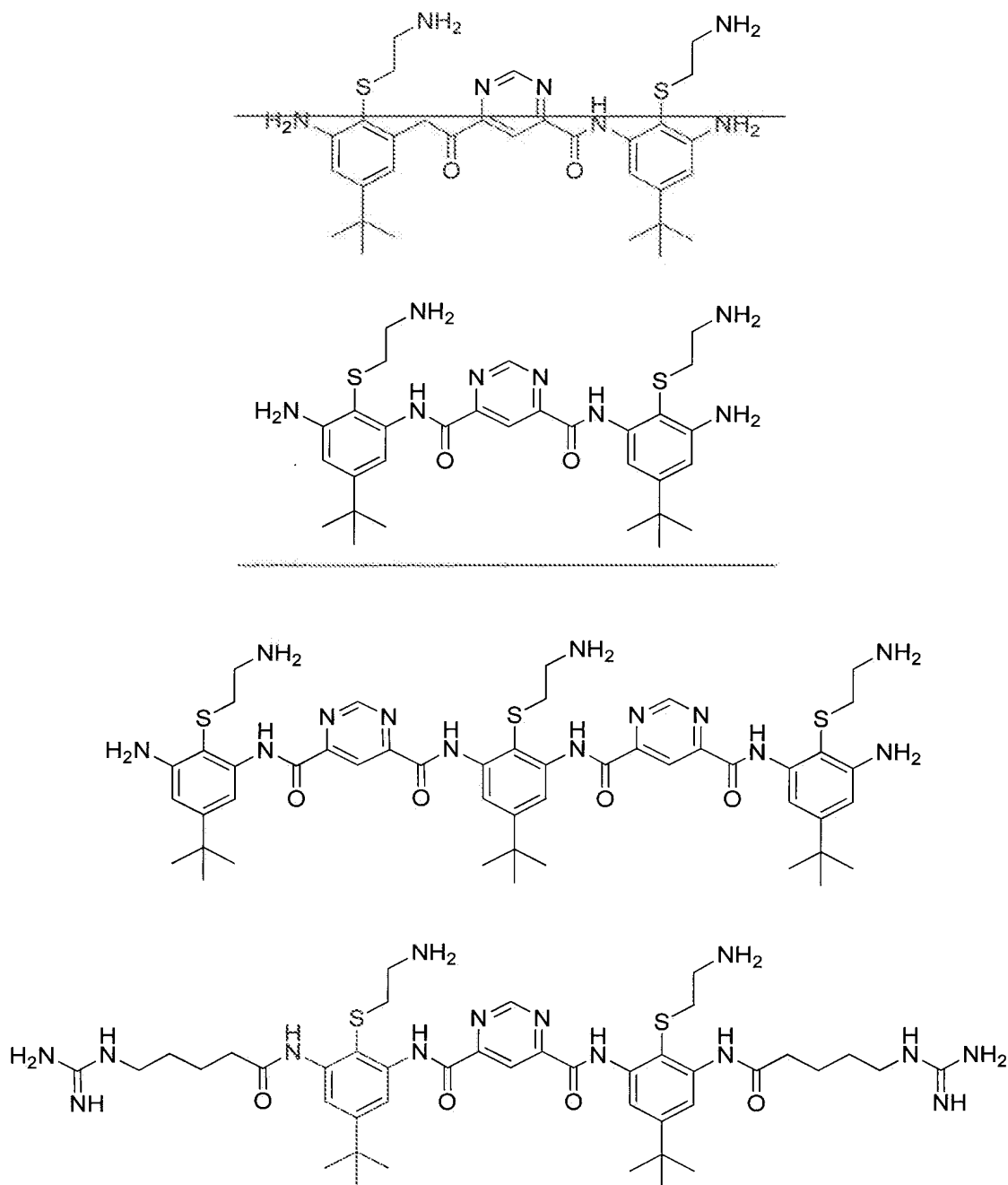
pPL is 0 to 6;

q1PL and q2PL are 0; and

m is 1, 2 or 3,

and a pharmaceutically acceptable carrier or diluent.

68. (Currently amended) The method of claim 67, wherein the amphiphilic oligomer is selected from the group consisting of:



69. (Previously presented) The method of claim 16, wherein the microbial infection is a bacterial infection, a fungal infection, or a viral infection.

70. (Previously presented) The method of claim 16, wherein the heteroarylene is selected from the group consisting of pyridinylene, pyrimidinylene, and pyrazinylene.

71. (Currently amended) The method of claim 16, wherein:

x is  $\text{NR}^8$ , y is  $\text{C}=\text{O}$ , and  $\text{R}^8$  is hydrogen;

one of  $\text{A}_1$  and  $\text{A}_2$  is ~~optionally substituted~~ *m*-phenylene, and the other of  $\text{A}_1$  and  $\text{A}_2$  is ~~optionally substituted~~ pyrimidinylene, wherein ~~one of  $\text{A}_1$  and  $\text{A}_2$~~  is substituted with one polar (PL) group and one nonpolar (NPL) group and ~~the other of  $\text{A}_1$  and  $\text{A}_2$~~  is unsubstituted;

$\text{R}^1$  is a polar group (PL), and  $\text{R}^2$  is  $-\text{x}-\text{A}_1-\text{x}-\text{R}^1$ ;

NPL is a nonpolar group  $-(\text{NR}^{3'})_{q1\text{NPL}}-\text{U}^{\text{NPL}}-(\text{CH}_2)_{p\text{NPL}}-(\text{NR}^{3''})_{q2\text{NPL}}-\text{R}^{4'}$ , wherein:

$\text{R}^{4'}$  is selected from the group consisting of hydrogen, alkyl, alkenyl, alkynyl, cycloalkyl, aryl, and heteroaryl, any of which is optionally substituted with one or more alkyl or halo groups;

$\text{U}^{\text{NPL}}$  is absent;

$p\text{NPL}$  is 0, 1 or 2;

$q1\text{NPL}$  and  $q2\text{NPL}$  are independently 0;

PL is a polar group  $-(\text{NR}^{5'})_{q1\text{PL}}-\text{U}^{\text{PL}}-(\text{CH}_2)_{p\text{PL}}-(\text{NR}^{5''})_{q2\text{PL}}-\text{V}$ , wherein:

$\text{U}^{\text{PL}}$  is selected from the group consisting of O, S, and  $-\text{C}(=\text{O})-$ ;

$p\text{PL}$  is 0 to 4;

$q1\text{PL}$  and  $q2\text{PL}$  are independently 0;

V is selected from the group consisting of nitro, cyano, amino, hydroxy, alkoxy, alkylthio, alkylamino, dialkylamino,  $-\text{NH}(\text{CH}_2)_p\text{NH}_2$  wherein p is 1 to 4,  $-\text{N}(\text{CH}_2\text{CH}_2\text{NH}_2)_2$ , diazamino, amidino, guanidino, guanyl,



semicarbazone, aryl, heterocycle and heteroaryl, any of which is optionally substituted with one or more of amino, halo, cyano, nitro, hydroxy,  $-\text{NH}(\text{CH}_2)_p\text{NH}_2$  wherein  $p$  is 1 to 4,  $-\text{N}(\text{CH}_2\text{CH}_2\text{NH}_2)_2$ , amidino, guanidino, guanyl, aminosulfonyl, aminoalkoxy, aminoalkythio, lower acylamino, or benzyloxycarbonyl, and wherein the heterocycle is selected from the group consisting of piperidinyl, piperazinyl, imidazolidinyl, pyrrolidinyl, pyrazolidinyl, and morpholinyl; and

$m$  is 1, 2 or 3.

72. (Currently amended) The method of claim 16, wherein:

$x$  is  $\text{NR}^8$ ,  $y$  is  $\text{C}=\text{O}$ , and  $\text{R}^8$  is hydrogen;

one of  $\text{A}_1$  and  $\text{A}_2$  is ~~optionally substituted~~  $m$ -phenylene, and the other of  $\text{A}_1$  and  $\text{A}_2$  is ~~optionally substituted~~ pyrimidinylene, wherein ~~one of  $\text{A}_1$  and  $\text{A}_2$  is substituted~~ with one polar (PL) group and one nonpolar (NPL) group and ~~the other of  $\text{A}_1$  and  $\text{A}_2$  is unsubstituted;~~

$\text{R}^1$  is a polar group (PL), and  $\text{R}^2$  is  $-\text{x}-\text{A}_1-\text{x}-\text{R}^1$ ;

NPL is a nonpolar group  $-(\text{NR}^{3'})_{q1\text{NPL}}-\text{U}^{\text{NPL}}-(\text{CH}_2)_{p\text{NPL}}-(\text{NR}^{3''})_{q2\text{NPL}}-\text{R}^{4'}$ , wherein:

$\text{R}^{4'}$  is selected from the group consisting of hydrogen, alkyl, alkenyl, alkynyl, cycloalkyl, aryl, and heteroaryl, any of which is optionally substituted with one or more alkyl or halo groups;

$\text{U}^{\text{NPL}}$  is absent;

$p\text{NPL}$  is 0, 1 or 2;

$q1\text{NPL}$  and  $q2\text{NPL}$  are independently 0;

PL is a polar group  $-(\text{NR}^{5'})_{q1\text{PL}}-\text{U}^{\text{PL}}-(\text{CH}_2)_{p\text{PL}}-(\text{NR}^{5'})_{q2\text{PL}}-\text{V}$ , wherein:

$U^{PL}$  is selected from the group consisting of O, S, and  $-C(=O)-$ ;

pPL is 0 to 4;

q1PL and q2PL are independently 0;

V is selected from the group consisting of amino and guanidino; and

m is 1, 2 or 3.

73. (Currently amended) The method of claim 16, wherein:

x is  $NR^8$ , y is  $C=O$ , and  $R^8$  is hydrogen;

one of  $A_1$  and  $A_2$  is ~~optionally substituted~~ *o*-, *m*-, or *p*-phenylene, and the other of  $A_1$  and

$A_2$  is ~~optionally substituted~~ heteroarylene, wherein ~~one of  $A_1$  and  $A_2$  is~~

substituted with one polar (PL) group and one nonpolar (NPL) group and ~~the~~

~~other of  $A_1$  and  $A_2$  is unsubstituted~~, and wherein the heteroarylene is selected

from the group consisting of pyridinylene, pyrimidinylene, or pyrazinylene;

$R^1$  is a polar group (PL), and  $R^2$  is  $-x-A_1-x-R^1$ ;

NPL is a nonpolar group  $-(NR^{3'})_{q1NPL}-U^{NPL}-(CH_2)_{pNPL}-(NR^{3''})_{q2NPL}-R^{4'}$ , wherein:

$R^{4'}$  is selected from the group consisting of hydrogen, alkyl, alkenyl, alkynyl,

cycloalkyl, aryl, and heteroaryl, any of which is optionally substituted

with one or more alkyl or halo groups;

$U^{NPL}$  is absent;

pNPL is 0, 1 or 2;

q1NPL and q2NPL are independently 0;

PL is a polar group  $-(NR^{5'})_{q1PL}-U^{PL}-(CH_2)_{pPL}-(NR^{5'})_{q2PL}-V$ , wherein:

$U^{PL}$  is selected from the group consisting of O, S, and  $-C(=O)-$ ;

pPL is 0 to 4;

q1PL and q2PL are independently 0;

V is selected from the group consisting of amino and guanidino; and

m is 1, 2 or 3.

74. (New) The method of claim 16, comprising systemic administration to the animal of an effective amount of a pharmaceutical composition comprising an amphiphilic oligomer of Formula II, wherein said pharmaceutical composition is administered orally.

75. (New) The method of claim 16, comprising systemic administration to the animal of an effective amount of a pharmaceutical composition comprising an amphiphilic oligomer of Formula II, wherein said administration is parenteral, subcutaneous, intravenous, intramuscular, intraperitoneal, buccal, intravaginal, by ocular routes, by inhalation, by depot injections, or by implants.

76. (New) The method of claim 17, comprising systemic administration to the animal of an effective amount of a pharmaceutical composition comprising an amphiphilic oligomer of Formula II, wherein said pharmaceutical composition is administered orally.

77. (New) The method of claim 17, comprising systemic administration to the animal of an effective amount of a pharmaceutical composition comprising an amphiphilic oligomer of Formula II, wherein said administration is parenteral, subcutaneous, intravenous, intramuscular, intraperitoneal, buccal, intravaginal, by ocular routes, by inhalation, by depot injections, or by implants.

78. (New) The method of claim 67, comprising systemic administration to the animal of an effective amount of a pharmaceutical composition comprising an amphiphilic oligomer of Formula II, wherein said pharmaceutical composition is administered orally.

79. (New) The method of claim 67, comprising systemic administration to the animal of an effective amount of a pharmaceutical composition comprising an amphiphilic oligomer of Formula II, wherein said administration is parenteral, subcutaneous, intravenous, intramuscular, intraperitoneal, buccal, intravaginal, by ocular routes, by inhalation, by depot injections, or by implants.